

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

1. (Amended) ~~A~~ Bbio-compatible means product for delivery of at ~~least one~~ a pharmaceutically active agent to a patient in need of same<sub>1</sub> comprising:

a) a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic or cationic carrier;<sub>1</sub>

b) ~~at least one~~ a pharmaceutically active agent ~~wherein said agent which~~ is cationic when the carrier is anionic and is anionic when the carrier is cationic, wherein said active agent is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination; and

c) ~~at least one~~ a bio-compatible enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination, said enclosing means including having at least one outwardly directed surface having a predetermined permeation gradient for the passage therethrough of said at least one pharmaceutically active agent, said active agent being ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination, said carrier/active agent combination being enclosed in said enclosing means.

2. (Amended) ~~The~~ A bio-compatible means product for delivery of at ~~least one~~ a pharmaceutically active agent to a patient in need of same<sub>1</sub> comprising:

a) a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic or cationic carrier;<sub>1</sub>

b) ~~at least one~~ a pharmaceutically active agent ~~wherein said agent which~~ is cationic when the carrier is anionic and is anionic when the carrier is cationic, wherein said active agent is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination; and

e) ~~at least one~~ a bio-compatible, biodegradable enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination, said enclosing means including having at least one outwardly directed side, ~~said active agent being ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination, said carrier/active agent combination being enclosed in said enclosing means.~~

3. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product ~~for delivery of in accordance with~~ claim 2, wherein said ~~at least one~~ bio-compatible, biodegradable enclosing means has a predetermined permeation gradient for the passage therethrough of said ~~at least one~~ pharmaceutically active agent.

4. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 1, wherein the carrier is an anionic carrier.

5. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 1, wherein the active agent is a cationic agent.

6. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 5, wherein the active agent is ~~a~~ selected from the group consisting of cationic analgesics, antibiotics, antimicrobials, antivirals, ~~antiinflammatory~~ anti-inflammatory agents and hemostatic agents.

7. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 4, wherein the anionic carrier is an oxidized regenerated cellulose carrier.

8. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 7, wherein the anionic carrier is an oxidized regenerated cellulose fabric.

9. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 8, wherein the active agent is a cationic agent.

10. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 9, wherein the active agent is ~~a~~ selected from the group consisting of cationic analgesics, antibiotics, antimicrobials, antivirals, anti-inflammatory agents, anticholinergics, antidepressants, antihistamines, antidiabetics, anticonvulsants, ~~antimigranes~~ antimigraines, antineoplastics, ~~antimalerials~~ antimalarials, ~~immunisuppressants~~ immunosuppressants, cardiovascular drugs, growth factors and hemostatic agents.

11. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 1, wherein the enclosing means is a polymer film.

12. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 11, wherein said polymer is a microporous polymer ~~of has~~ having a pore size of between 0.01 and 1000 microns.

13. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 12, wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.1 and 500 microns.

14. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 13, wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.1 and 50 microns.

15. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 14, wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.1 and 5 microns.

16. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 15, wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.1 and 1 microns.

17. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 1, wherein the enclosing means is a polymer film selected from the group consisting of PLA, PLG, mixtures thereof and copolymers of the constituent monomers thereof.

18. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 2, wherein the carrier is an anionic carrier.

19. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 18, wherein the active agent is a cationic agent.

20. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 19, wherein the active agent is ~~a~~selected from the group consisting of cationic analgesics, antibiotics, antimicrobials, antivirals, anti-inflammatory agents, anticholinergics, antidepressants, antihistamines, antidiabetics, anticonvulsants, antimigranes antimigraines, antineoplastics, ~~antimalerials~~ antimalarials, ~~immunisuppressants~~ immunosuppressants, cardiovascular drugs, growth factors and hemostatic agents.

21. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 20, wherein the anionic carrier is an oxidized regenerated cellulose carrier.

22. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 21, wherein the anionic carrier is an oxidized regenerated cellulose fabric.

23. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 22, wherein the active agent is ~~a~~-selected from the group consisting of cationic analgesics, antibiotics, antimicrobials, antivirals, ~~antiinflammatory~~ anti-inflammatory agents and hemostatic agents.

24. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 2, wherein the enclosing means is a polymer selected from the group consisting of PLA, PLG<sub>1</sub> mixtures thereof and copolymers of the constituent monomers thereof.

25. (Amended) A bio-compatible product for delivery of a pharmaceutically active agent to a patient in need of same, comprising:

a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic carrier which is an oxidized regenerated cellulose fabric;

a cationic pharmaceutically active agent which is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination; said cationic pharmaceutically active agent being selected from the group consisting of cationic analgesics, antibiotics, antimicrobials, antivirals, anti-inflammatory agents, anticholinergics, antidepressants, antihistamines, antidiabetics, anticonvulsants, antimigraines, antineoplastics, antimalarials, immunosuppressants, cardiovascular drugs, growth factors and hemostatic agents.and

a bio-compatible enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination. ~~The bio-compatible means in accordance with claim 10, wherein the said enclosing means is being made from~~ a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, mixtures thereof and copolymers of the constituent monomers thereof, said enclosing means including at least one outwardly directed

surface having a predetermined permeation gradient for the passage therethrough of said pharmaceutically active agent.

26. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 25, wherein the enclosing means is a microporous polymer film.

27. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 3, wherein the enclosing means is a microporous polymer film.

28. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 27, wherein the carrier is an anionic carrier.

29. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 28, wherein the active agent is a cationic agent.

30. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 29, wherein the active agent is ~~a~~ selected from the group consisting of cationic analgesics, antibiotics, antimicrobials, antivirals, ~~antiinflammatory~~ anti-inflammatory agents, anticholinergics, antidepressants, antihistamines, antidiabetics, anticonvulsants, ~~antimigranes~~ antimigraines, antineoplastics, ~~antimalerials~~ antimalarials, immunisuppressants immunosuppressants, cardiovascular drugs and hemostatic agents.

31. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 28, wherein the anionic carrier is an oxidized regenerated cellulose carrier.

32. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 31, wherein the anionic carrier is an oxidized regenerated cellulose fabric.

33. (Amended) The bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 32, wherein the active agent is a cationic agent.

34. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 27, wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.01 and 1000 microns.

35. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 34, wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.1 and 500 microns.

36. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 35, wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.1 and 50 microns.

37. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 36, ~~wherein~~ wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.1 and 5 microns.

38. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 37, ~~wherein~~ wherein said microporous polymer has a pore size of between 0.1 and 1 microns.

39. (Amended) The bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in accordance with claim 3, wherein the said enclosing means is made from a polymer selected from the group consisting of PLA, PLG<sub>1</sub> mixtures thereof and copolymers of the constituent monomers thereof.

40. (Amended) The A bio-compatible ~~means~~ product in ~~accordance with claim 1,~~ for delivery of a pharmaceutically active agent to a patient in need of same, comprising:

a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic or cationic carrier;

a pharmaceutically active agent which is cationic when the carrier is anionic and is anionic when the carrier is cationic, wherein said active agent is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination;

a bio-compatible enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination, said enclosing means including at least one outwardly directed surface having a predetermined permeation gradient for the passage therethrough of said pharmaceutically active agent; and

~~additionally comprising at least one~~ a further carrier layer located on said at least one outwardly facing directed surface of said enclosing means.

41. (Amended) The A bio-compatible means product ~~in accordance with claim 2, for delivery of a pharmaceutically active agent to a patient in need of same,~~ comprising:

a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic or cationic carrier;

a pharmaceutically active agent which is cationic when the carrier is anionic and is anionic when the carrier is cationic, wherein said active agent is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination;

a bio-compatible, biodegradable enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination, said enclosing means including at least one outwardly directed side; and

~~additionally comprising at least one~~ a further carrier layer located on said at least one outwardly facing ~~surface~~ directed side of said enclosing means.



42. (Amended) The A bio-compatible means product in accordance with claim 3, for delivery of a pharmaceutically active agent to a patient in need of same, comprising:

a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic or cationic carrier;

a pharmaceutically active agent which is cationic when the carrier is anionic and is anionic when the carrier is cationic, wherein said active agent is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination;

a bio-compatible, biodegradable enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination, said enclosing means including at least one outwardly directed side and having a predetermined permeation gradient for the passage therethrough of said pharmaceutically active agent; and

additionally comprising at least one a further carrier layer located on said at least one outwardly facing surface of said enclosing means.

43. (Amended) A method of administering ~~at least one~~ a pharmaceutically active agent to the tissue surface of a subject in need of same ~~at a rate dependent on the permeability of the enclosing means of claim 1,~~ comprising the step of contacting said tissue surface with the a bio-compatible delivery means product of claim 1, having a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic or cationic carrier, a pharmaceutically active agent which is cationic when the carrier is anionic and is anionic when the carrier is cationic, wherein said active agent is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination, said carrier being disposed within a bio-compatible enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination having at least one outwardly directed surface having a predetermined permeation

gradient for the passage therethrough of said at least one pharmaceutically active agent, said administration of said pharmaceutically active agent being dependent on the permeability of said enclosing means.

44. (Amended) A method of administering ~~at least one~~ a pharmaceutically active agent to the tissue surface of a subject in need of same, ~~at a rate dependent on the rate of bio-degradability of the enclosing means of claim 2,~~ comprising ~~of the~~ step of contacting said tissue surface with ~~the~~ a bio-compatible delivery means ~~product of claim 2.~~ having a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic or cationic carrier, a pharmaceutically active agent which is cationic when the carrier is anionic and is anionic when the carrier is cationic, wherein said active agent is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination, said carrier being disposed within a bio-compatible, biodegradable enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination having at least one outwardly directed side, said administration of said pharmaceutically active agent being dependent on the rate of bio-degradability of the enclosing means.

45. (Amended) A method of administering ~~at least one~~ a pharmaceutically active agent to the tissue surface of a subject in need of same, ~~at a rate dependent on the rate of bio-degradability of the enclosing means of claim 2,~~ comprising ~~of the~~ step of contacting said tissue surface with ~~the~~ a bio-compatible delivery means ~~product of claim 2.~~ having a bio-compatible, biodegradable anionic or cationic carrier, a pharmaceutically active agent which is cationic when the carrier is anionic and is anionic when the carrier is cationic, wherein said active agent is ionically linked to said carrier, thereby forming a carrier/active agent combination, said carrier

being disposed within a bio-compatible, biodegradable enclosing means for enclosing said carrier/active agent combination having at least one outwardly directed side, said bio-compatible, biodegradable enclosing means having a predetermined permeation gradient for the passage therethrough of said pharmaceutically active agent, said administration of said pharmaceutically active agent being dependent on the rates of bio-degradability and permeability of the enclosing means.